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EDITOR OF BALTIMORE SOUTHERN METHODIST

Dr. C. D. Harris Writes of Visit to Lexington

The following editorial correspondence appeared in last week's issue of the Baltimore Southern Methodist from the pen of its editor, Dr. Carlton D. Harris, on his recent visit to Lexington during the meeting of the Roanoke District Conference:

"We are especially indebted to Rev. M. D. Mitchell, a former editor, and the host of the conference, at whose hospitable parsonage we received many courtesies. He is interested in building a representative church at this Virginia Athens, where a thousand students every year come from all over the country to be educated, that Methodism may do its part in making a permanent impression on student life. On account of the far-reaching effect of such a church, with the best modern equipment, few more profitable investments could be made by our denomination at large.

"Mr. W. H. Agnor and Mr. W. R. Kennedy, editor of the 'Lexington Gazette,' have placed us under obligations to them for kind and thoughtful acts. The latter gave us such historical data concerning this famous valley town inseparably associated with the names of Lee and Jackson, both of whom sleep there 'after life's fitful fever,' but we shall be compelled to postpone its use for a subsequent article owing to the lengthening of this paper."

Three Pastors in 74 Years

The following notice appeared in last week's issue of The Presbyterian of the South concerning Mount Carmel Presbyterian church, whose members live in Rockbridge and Augusta counties:

"Mount Carmel, Augusta county: This church, now in membership the second largest of our country churches within the bounds of the General Assembly, was organized in 1837, 74 years ago. During that time, it has had only three pastors: Mr. Payne, Mr. Peterkin and the present pastor, Rev. A. H. Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton has been serving the church for thirty-five consecutive years. When he took the charge, there were only 172 members. Now the membership is more than 450. During his pastorate of thirty-five years, Mr. Hamilton has received into the church more than seven hundred persons. There are only between thirty and forty persons now living, who were members of the church at the beginning of his work. He is still doing the full pastor's work and is much beloved by the whole community."

Cats a Menace to Health

Scientists now declare that cats are among the worst harborers of germs, hence a menace to health, and that they should be shaved, or if not enough value to warrant that trouble, then killed.

The State Board of Health of Kansas has taken up the crusade against the cat. Felines carry many more germs than dogs. Cats do not bathe as dogs do. Cats have an aversion for water. Their thick fur forms a safe breeding place for microbes, some of which are not found in the hair of a dog or of any cleaner animal. So the order runs to the Kansans:

"Shave your cat as you would your horse or your dog; if that be too much trouble, kill him."

Remedy for Snake Bite

The following remedy is said to be a splendid antidote for the rattlesnake bite, provided it is used immediately after being bitten: Take a pan or bowl and pour enough kerosene oil to cover the wound. It will draw the poison out immediately, and in the course of a few minutes turn perfectly green. Then pour out the oil and refill the bowl, being careful to put in enough oil to completely cover the wound. Leave the foot or hand in the oil as long as the oil turns green. Then put on a poultice of plain table salt and saturate thoroughly with oil. Keep this up for about an hour and there is scarcely any danger of fatal results. Cut this out and preserve for future reference.

BARBOUR THOMPSON ON FAMOUS LETTERS

Admits They Are Genuine But Are Misrepresented

DENIES "YELLOW DOG" FUND

Says Railroads Helped to Maintain White Supremacy

Mr. J. S. B. Thompson of Atlanta, Ga., conspicuously mentioned in the Virginia Senatorial campaign recently, arrived in New York Saturday aboard the Lusitania from abroad. He was shown the publications that attributed to him the handling of a "yellow dog" fund some years ago in Virginia. Mr. Thompson slowly read the articles now being printed in the campaign of Congressman Wm. A. Jones against Senator Thomas S. Martin. When finished, Mr. Thompson paused as if to catch his breath and then began:

"I am not a citizen of Virginia now, and prefer not to be brought into this matter. On the face of these letters, which are construed as having reference to a 'yellow dog' fund, I will say that the State Legislature threshed this matter out. I was a witness before its committee, and its report and the Legislature's action are matters of record.

"For example, it is claimed that these letters show that a 'yellow dog' fund had been provided by the railroads and that Senator Martin was one of the railroad agents for the disbursement of this fund. This is, of course, intended to make on the public mind the impression that the railroads had subscribed and were using a corruption fund.

"Such a statement is absolutely false. There was no 'yellow dog' or corruption fund, so far as I ever heard or believe. Virginia has, in my belief, always been free from any such corruption and does not deserve this stigma. Certainly, so far as an attempt is made to link my name with any such fund, I indignantly repudiate it and denounce it as false.

"I was personally active in my co-operation in respect to these matters for about ten years—from 1884 to 1894—first under my uncle, the late Senator John S. Barbour, and afterwards under Chairman Basil B. Gordon, since deceased, and Chairman J. Taylor Ellyson of the Democratic State Committee, and in cordial association much of the time with Mr. Martin and Mr. Jones, both of whom were during much, if not all, of that period members of the Democratic Executive Committee and conversant with its work.

"As I say, I do not remember the letters nor the exact circumstances under which they were written, but I would construe 'us' as meaning the railroads, and that when I was appealing to a railroad man, such as General Logan, for contributions, I was giving him the assurance, which I myself felt, that the Democratic managers, including Chairman Ellyson, who were asking the railroads for help, were not doing so with the traitorous purpose of first getting railroad aid and then entering upon a program of unfairness and destruction against them, but could be depended upon for fair treatment, and to let it be known, if occasion should require to prevent injustice, that the railroads had assisted in upholding the Democratic party, and were entitled to fairness at its hands."

Dies at Age of 113 Years

Valley Virginian: Mrs. Francis A. Poindexter, aged 113 years, died at her home near Sherando on Thursday, August 3rd. She had been in bad health for several years but had only been bedfast for a few months. Her husband was a veteran in the war of 1812 and preceded her to the grave a number of years. She leaves to mourn her loss one daughter and a number of friends. The funeral took place at Sherando church and interment in Sherando cemetery Saturday, August 5.

Artificial teeth were used in the first century.

Corrupt Business Men Behind Corrupt Politics

By R. P. SHEPHERD of St. Louis, Editor of a Church Organ

THE American problem is the identical world problem. Thirty years ago there was one divorce to every seventy marriages in this country. That was bad enough; that was sufficiently alarming. Yet last year there was one divorce to every ten and two-thirds marriages. That is APPALLING.

Some of us grow hysterical at the mention of "rotten" politics. American politics is rotten, but only because business behind it is rotten.

IT IS CORRUPT BUSINESS MEN WHO BRIBE COUNCILMEN, MAKE AMERICAN POLITICS CORRUPT AND MAKE AMERICA THE LAUGHINGSTOCK OF THE WHOLE WORLD. EDUCATION, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, IS THE ONLY THING PROMISING TO END THE CORRUPTION.

If we solve the American problem we must solve the problem of the education of the American man and woman. We must begin where God began—at the BEGINNING. We must begin with youth.

Real Estate and Property Transfers Recorded

The following deeds of bargain and sale were entered of record in the Clerk's Office of Rockbridge county for two weeks ending Aug. 8, 1911:

Henry C. Atkinson to Harry A. Deaver, house and lot one mile east of Lexington, adj. C. R. Deaver, etc., \$400.

N. J. Firebaugh to A. H. Staton, 38 acres on Buffalo Creek, adj. J. M. Updike, \$450.

Elizabeth N. Hepler to Alice H. Roadcap, 114 poles on Mill Creek, adj. J. B. Goodloe, near Gosben, \$50.

Calvin Goodbar to John A. Nicely, 7 acres east of North Mountain, adj. Goodbar and Nicely, \$50.

John A. Nicely to William Ray Nicely, 30 acres on Lexington and Covington Turnpike near Collier's Creek.

Lennie E. Bradford to W. S. Bradford, 100 acres known as the P. S. Bradford land, one mile west of Sherwood on James River.

J. E. A. Gibbs' exor., to James Stuart, 1 acre near Raphine, adj. Paul A. Mangus, \$500.

A. T. Shields, clerk, to B. G. Baldwin, agent, 93 lots in Glasgow.

James M. Taylor to Stephen D. Chittum, 1 acre and 7 poles adj. Bell, Catlett & Miller Co., South River district, \$200.

R. Shore Robertson to Ivanhoe Robertson, 8 lots in Glasgow.

S. H. Lawre to C. B. Decker, 5 acres on White's Gap road, South River district, adj. grantor, \$200.

Married Themselves

Floyd Kisner and Miss Maude Johnson, of Wyoming county, married themselves in the courthouse at Tunkhannock, Pa., August 10th, by formally proclaiming that they considered themselves as man and wife.

They got a marriage license as the law requires and then, declining the advice of the marriage license clerk that they have a magistrate or a minister perform the ceremony, they said they preferred to marry themselves.

Kisner told Miss Johnson that he accepted her as his loving and dutiful wife, while Miss Johnson replied by stating that she was delighted to take Kisner as her lawful husband.

They had witnesses sign the declaration and departed happily to their home.

Ship to Battle With Aeroplanes

Norfolk is soon to be the scene of one of the most thrilling war games ever played, when the ships of Uncle Sam's navy will battle a winged fleet of aeroplanes. More than 40,000 officers and men will participate in the maneuvers.

The tests will be conducted under the personal command of Admiral Osterhaus, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, and four division commanders.

In the navy tests, commencing at Hampton Roads, the latter part of this month, experiments of a limited character will be first undertaken, consisting of a single battleship firing at a kite carried by the ship herself. But during the first part of September a large portion of the fleet will participate in more general experiments.

Brief and Interesting Items for the Busy Reader

A lot of people manufacture crosses to bear in order to excite sympathy.

What we need and what we want often marks the difference between life's extremes.

The wealth of the Rothschilds is put at \$2,000,000,000. This is four times the probable wealth of all the Rockfellers.

Using only bamboo, government engineers in Java have built a bridge more than 400 feet long, with a 60-foot center span.

Shoes, as at present, were known as "rights" and "lefts" in Shakespeare's day. He described a smith as "standing on slippers which his nimble haste had falsely trust upon contrary feet."

General Funston received the Medal of Honor and was made Brigadier-General of Volunteers for the remarkable crossing of the Rio Grande in the Philippines at the Battle of Calumpit. With humor and vivacity General Funston describes this adventure in the September Scribner.

Mrs. Lydia McCormick of South Boston, Va., who was born on August 6, 1810, has just celebrated her one hundred and first birthday in good health and in the possession of all her faculties. She can read without glasses and insists on doing a share of the household duties at the home of her son, S. A. McCormick, with whom she lives near Scottsburg.

Former Governor A. J. Montague spoke in Staunton last Friday night to an audience of 400 or 500 people. He declared that Martin, Swanson and Flood are heads of the Democratic machine. Washington, he said, is more the capital of Virginia in some respects than is Richmond. He criticized Martin as a leader in statesmanship, and of Swanson as the best governor Virginia has ever had. Most of his speech was devoted to attempts to show that Virginia has one of the worst machines in American political life.

To Write a New Arithmetic

Unless the whole science of mathematics is to be overthrown, the merchants of Staunton who are expecting that a man will be able to spend his money for liquor and still have it to buy groceries, shoes and dry goods, will be disappointed. When a man takes a dollar out of his pile and buys liquor with it, he cannot use that dollar to purchase anything else with.

But we are assured that more people will come to Staunton to spend this dollar but for liquor, who will also spend several dollars for other things that would have been brought elsewhere but the fact that the liquor drew him hither. Possibly, but how about the Staunton man who was already spending his money here, and the many county men who were doing the same thing, but who will now draw out the dollar, possibly the many dollars with which to buy liquor? Will the loss from these be more than made up from the new trade? Wait, gentlemen, and count your dollars and see.—Staunton Leader.

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FARMERS GATHER IN CITY OF STAUNTON

President Davis Attacks Activity Of Lobbyists

IN THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

Governor Mann Delivers Address on Agricultural Possibilities

Explaining why the agricultural interest of Virginia had failed to secure from recent sessions of the General Assembly legislation demanded, President Westmoreland Davis, in his annual address before the Virginia State Farmers' Institute Thursday morning in Staunton, read a list of twenty-two bills believed to have been inimical to interests of certain public service corporations, the defeat of which was secured by an ever-watchful, paid lobby. Many of the bills, he said there was a reason to believe, would, if enacted, have been for the benefit of the community.

Other features of the president's address were an attack on the State Board of Agriculture for failure to co-operate with the State Farmers' Institute, though it had funds available for the purpose; sarcastic reference to the president of the Southern Railway, which corporation was charged with collecting the last penny of exorbitant rates to pay dividends on heavily watered stock, a demand for election of corporation commissioners by the people, and for the passage of unamended legislation for the farming interests.

Governor William Hodges Mann, at the afternoon session, replied partly to Mr. Davis, admitting that all other interests but those of the farmer were represented by a lobby in the General Assembly. The Governor prefaced his address on "Agricultural Possibilities in Virginia" by some remarks in answer to the address of President Davis, making it clear that financial limitations had prevented the adoption by the last General Assembly of measures otherwise acceptable. With limited income and constantly increasing demands, he said, the State could not do everything it desired to do. The Governor strongly indorsed the proposed lime bill, regretting its failure at the last session, and promising to recommend its passage. He stated that he had arranged a conference of Virginia railway presidents, to be held in Richmond on September 1, to discuss freight charges on agricultural lime, and he was certain that some reduction would result. The institute was invited to send representatives to the conference.

The Governor avoided politics in his remarks, saying that he himself desired no office in the gift of the people. He merely asks the co-operation of the farming interests that a record of agricultural development might be made during his administration.

"It does sometimes seem," he said, "that you have no friends in Richmond. I used to think when a man put in a good bill it would go through. I found you had to nurse it like a baby. While every other interest is organized and has men to lobby its measures, the farmers are not represented in the Legislature to any great extent, though this condition, I believe, is improving."

Contest in Staunton Election

Something of a sensation was sprung by "Dry" leaders in Staunton when they made known the fact late in the afternoon last Thursday that they intended contesting the result of the late local option election, which went "Wet" by 102 majority, by filing notice of contest with the corporation court.

Their main ground for contest is that the registration list was not legally certified to by the city treasurer and corporation judge, showing that all poll taxes were legally paid. Judge W. R. Staples threw out the Roanoke election on this ground and it is claimed that Judge Holt will either have to do the same thing or reverse Judge Staples. The "Drys" hope for success.

BROAD WAY FROM DISPENSARY TO CEMETERY

And Many There Be to Travel from One to the Other

Broad is the way that leads from a Virginia dispensary to a Virginia cemetery, and many there be that go in thereat.

Recently the editor took a Sunday afternoon stroll through an old Virginia town. It was a town of fine homes with broad lawns shaded by ancient oaks. Around like guardian sentinels, stand the lofty peaks of the Blue Ridge.

Fine modern sidewalks lead out in every direction through the town. One especially attracted our attention. It was broad, smooth, long. It led from the heart of the town near the door of the city liquor dispensary to the gate of the cemetery. It was paid for, we were informed, by the revenues from the publicly owned and publicly administered liquor establishment.

That it should begin at the dispensary and end at the cemetery, is quite appropriate. It is not only fitting but typical. The cemetery at the other end of the walk, is not only the graveyard of buried bodies, slain by the dispensary, but the graveyard of buried hopes and buried happiness and buried character, all slaughtered at the dispensary, maintained for public revenue.

By all means let there be a broad smooth pathway from the dispensary to the cemetery—it will be needed and much traveled.—The Virginia Issue.

General George W. Gordon Died in Memphis

General George W. Gordon, commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans and member of Congress, died at his home in Memphis, Tenn., August 9th.

General Gordon was born in Giles county, Tenn., Oct. 5, 1836. As a youth he entered the Western Military Academy, from which he was graduated in 1859.

At the beginning of the civil war, General Gordon enlisted as drillmaster of the Eleventh Tennessee Infantry, C. S. A. He later was lieutenant-colonel, and in about a year was commissioned colonel. In 1864 he was named brigadier-general. He participated with distinction in a number of engagements and at one time was taken prisoner.

At the close of the war, General Gordon studied and practiced law, becoming attorney-general of Shelby county. He was elected a member of the Sixtieth Congress from the Tenth Tennessee district, and re-elected to the Sixty-first and Sixty-second Congresses.

General Gordon was chosen commander-in-chief of the United Confederate Veterans at the reunion of 1910 at Mobile, Ala. He was re-elected at the 1911 reunion at Little Rock, Ark., last May.

Standard Size of Apple Barrel

The International League of Commission Merchants, the Boston Produce & Fruit Exchange, the International Shippers' Association and others, are preparing data looking to a Federal standard apple and vegetable barrel and the matter will be presented to Congress next December. This standard will be the 28½ inch barrel, and it is obviously to the interest of all packers and shippers of apples and vegetables to get in line as soon as possible.

While the use of the 28½ inch barrel is not compulsory, the fact that a very large percent of our apples are shipped out of the State makes it advisable to use the package which is standard in foreign markets.

Mr. Clarence W. Moomaw, of the Virginia Fruit Growers, incorporated, strongly advocates the use of the New York standard barrel by Virginia packers, giving as his reason that this is the barrel which has been established by custom to be the national standard.

The barrel very commonly used measures 27½ inches. The difference in capacity between that barrel and the barrel 28½ inches high is 2 68-100 quarts. The former is regarded as a "short" barrel and as such is prohibited sale in New York.